designating the United States. The international application was published in English. The entire contents of each of said applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Fig. 4 depicts schematically the preliminary nucleotide (SEQ ID NO:1) and deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) of HF1, as described in Example 1, in which the 'death domain' is underlined as is a possible translation start site, i.e. the underlined methionine residue at position 49 (bold, underlined M). The asterisk indicates the translation stop codon (nucleotides 769-771). At the beginning and in the middle of each line are provided two numerals depicting the relative positions of the nucleotides and amino acids of the sequence with respect to the start of the sequence (5' end), in which the first numeral denotes the nucleotide and the second numeral denoted the amino acid .--